



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Research and
Special Programs
Administration**

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400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

RSPA-1998-12606

FEB 6 1998

Mr. Frank J. Black
Director, Cargo Services
Air Transport Association
1301 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20004-1707

Dear Mr. Black:

This acknowledges our receipt of your Association's December 31, 1997 letter requesting an amendment of 49 CFR 175.31, to add a provision that would specifically exclude air carriers who report discrepancies involving improperly prepared hazardous materials shipments from civil penalties, if they had no knowledge of the violation.

Your letter has been accepted as a petition for rulemaking under § 106.31 and assigned number, P-1354. If you should write to us regarding this petition, please make reference to this petition number.

Sincerely,

Hattie L. Mitchell
Chief, Regulatory Review and Reinvention
Office of Hazardous Materials Standards